

Capt. A. McClean,)
) Goderich, Ont.
Capt. James Eingster,)

Eingster begins p. 22.

Interviewed by Wm. Wakeham and Richard Rathbun,

September 5, 1894.

Experience
P.
Coc.
History
Q.
Seine herring
P.
Coc.
Nw.

Capt. McClean--I have been fishing about 17 years and Capt. Eingster about the same length of time. I have been fishing pound ^{agen.} nets down between Drysdale and Blue Point or Kettle Point. I began fishing pound nets there 3 years ago this summer, and got through about 6 weeks ago. Pound nets were set there before then. They have had pound nets there I guess about 9 years. I fish gill nets principally. Capt. Eingster never fished anything else but gill nets. Fished herring 12 years ago with the seine. But they are so cheap they do not pay us now.

Below Goderich pound nets have been set ^P

about 18 miles south of here. This year they were set within about a mile of the light just above Sarnia. There are about 10 pound nets set between the river and Blue Point, about 18 miles up from the river. Between Blue Point and here there were 13 nets. There are more nets set south of here than ever, from Blue Point down to the river. There are 10 or 11 nets set there that never were set there before. There has never been much pound net fishing between here and Bayfield, but between Bayfield and the river there have been pound nets for the last 8 or 9 years. Some of them used to be double headers before this year. The leaders are from 60 to 80 rods. They use 5-inch mesh in the leaders, and the tunnel and heart are about 2 1/2. The tunnel and the pot are about the same size, 2 1/2-inch. They were set so they would catch all the small picker-

descrip.

*Walleye
fishing*

P.

Season

el that came along, and herring, too.

They put the pound nets in about the first of May. They commence putting their stakes in about the first of May and commence to lift about the 17th of May. We fished last fall until about October 15. We pull them out for awhile in August and clean the nets up and put them back in again. Have them out about 2 weeks.

Depth.

The pot would be in about 36 feet. The water is level off there and the outside pot would be in about the same water. The pots were about 26 feet square.

Catch
Season
herring
m.f.
walleye
sturgeon

In the spring about the first lifts would be herring and whitefish, and a few pickerel. Then after that run the sturgeon come on about the first of June and they last all through June. Would get a few herring then. When the pickerel are on you do not get many herring. The pickerel chase the herring off.

Sheepshead
suckers.

During July and August we get sheepshead, suckers, some herring and a few pickerel, and an odd sturgeon. In the fall they figure on getting herring. If they get good weather in October and the last part of September, the fishing is good. You just want a good 25 mile breeze to make good fishing, and blowing on the shore. In the fall would not get many pickerel, as they go out in deep water then. The herring fishing would be the best in the fall. If they do not get herring, they get nothing, and it does not pay to keep the nets in. We never fish along shore in December on account of the ice. We get very small herring late in the fall ^(in pounds) and about the last of June or first of August get big herring, some weighing 1 1/2 pounds. In the spring the herring are small also. There is just about 3 weeks of big herring run. Herring you get at that time

herring
size
season

pay better than any other. The big summer herring seem to be out in deeper water and they come in. They look just like the other herring, only larger. I have seen fish right in the bays up north of here in November and they were the best herring we get altogether. November would be a good month if we could get the weather to catch them. They P do not fish pound nets in November on this shore because it does not pay them to keep the twine in on account of the storms. If the weather was good November would be the best month for herring.

The herring always spawn in November, from about the 5th to the 20th. When you go farther up where the water is colder, they take longer to spawn. The herring are not quite as abundant as they were. We have set here with small pots and a man who had a good chance would get as many herring as you

P.
Nov.

herring
spawning

abundant

would anywhere.

They catch whitefish in the pound nets now in the spring. Get quite a good quantity of them. That will be about the last of May and the first of June. I have seen them catch 5 1/2 tons of whitefish in one pull, and would hardly get an 8 pound whitefish in one lot; they were all larger than that.

The best whitefish ground is up around Drysdale, but take it right inside of Blue Point on the bend there is a small class of fish running from 1 1/2 up to 3 pounds. I have seen some weighing about 3/4 of a pound. They come on in June when the water is getting pretty warm. They salt them then.

Whitefish are getting scarce all the time.

A good marketable whitefish should be about 2 1/2 or 3 pounds, but we would market them weighing only 1 1/2 pounds dressed. You catch fish in a pound net or anywhere else

n.b.

P.
W.f.
Scarc
about
Size

Coc

Min. size

Throwing out

and they are liable to die after you let them go. If you are dipping them out of a pound net, the dip net catches them and it does not take much of a rap to stun the fish, and the young whitefish are a very tender fish. The trout and pickerel will stand lots of handling. If you allow them to use 2 1/2-inch mesh for whitefish, you cannot very well save the whitefish. I have seen lots of these No. 2 whitefish caught off Cockburn Island. I have taken the fry around there and put it overboard, from the Michigan hatchery, and those whitefish come in among the pound nets and they caught them about the size of herring.

Where you get a big haul of herring you do not get many No. 2 whitefish. You might get a ton of herring and not get 50 pounds of whitefish. Whitefish and herring do not run together. If you get a few whitefish in

Trout
valleys
hardly.

N. f.
mesh.

Small w. f.
loc.

Hatching

Herring
size

Assoc. with
N. f.

F. gen.

N. f.

a large amount of herring, you would not notice them until you take them out. Where the whitefish run very thick along with the herring they would have to make them stop catching herring altogether so as not to catch the whitefish. Fishermen as a general rule are pretty honest and could be trusted to throw the small whitefish out. Wherever I have ever fished the small herring and got young whitefish among them I would rather have the herring, as when we salt them we would have to split the whitefish on the back and the herring we could split on the belly, which is easier, and they bring the same price. If herring are looked after well, you can ~~see~~ ^{cure} them better by splitting them on the belly than on the back.

The pickerel taken in the pound nets run from about--There is two classes of them. You take a fish that weighs 1 pound, he goes

*turning preferable
to young H.F.*

*salting
herring*

*Walleye
grades
size*

for No.1, and if less than that we do not want them. They have not been taking any that weighed less than 1 pound on this side this year. Down in Lake Erie they get a sauger that will not weigh over 1/2 pound. The blue pickerel generally weigh from 1 to 2 pounds. With the yellow pickerel there would be no trouble about throwing them out, as they will stand handling. We get just as much for pickerel as we do for whitefish, and in July would get a little more.

The fish that ought to be cleaned off altogether is the sturgeon, for it will eat more spawn than any other fish in the water. I have seen spawn in their stomachs. You will find the spawn in them in the spring just after the whitefish go along. The best time to get the caviar here is in June. They will not take the spawn unless it is hard and good size. We get caviar all the

Throwing out.

Value

Sturgeon
predaceous
food
Spawning
caviar
distrib.
abund.
P.
Scum
Value
\$9.

year, but the farther we go up here the less we get. The best caviar region is down around the river. Some will have 50 pounds of caviar in them. We get a great deal more caviar in the southern part of the lake than we do up here. The sturgeon we get up here are a long, slim fish with a big head. We got 50 sturgeon in 10 pound nets down here and I do not believe there would be 100 pounds of caviar in the whole business, while, if you get the same amount of sturgeon down below, you would get 350 pounds of caviar. That would be in June in both places. You can see sturgeon in the pots down there and when we come up around Stony Point we would not get hardly any. Sometimes would get 50 sturgeon to a lift down below Blue Point. I have seen them take 47 sturgeon out of one net at Blue Point. There has been as high as 170 come out of one net

about 3 miles above the river this summer in 2 lifts. About the average of 6 nets for about 10 miles above the river was about 500 sturgeon for each net this summer. They have done better with the pound nets than with seines. They cannot catch those sturgeon with the seines. Some of them have 120 rod lead, and they cannot go out as far as that with the seines. I think you should kill the sturgeon off as fast as you can get them, as they only kill the fish off you want to catch in deep water. Sturgeon are about as good a fish as you can bring into the market for money. They are worth about 5 cents a pound and the caviar is worth anywhere from 17 cents up. We get 5 cents a pound for the sounds. We get a good many small sturgeon. I have seen them catch sturgeon in gill nets in deep water. The pound nets get quite a few small ones. Anything

less than 4 feet long are counted as half fish. If I want to eat a sturgeon I would take one measuring about 3 1/2 feet and I would not throw the small ones overboard. In some places you can set pound nets and not get any sturgeon. You have to get sand bottom for sturgeon and a good bay.

Trout
P

We get very few lake trout in the pound nets. We get what we call the sand trout. They are a big heavy trout. I have seen 3,000 trout come out of a pound net in one night on Lake Superior.

Perch
P

We get the yellow perch in the pound nets. They are a pretty good fish to eat, and a good many like perch better than they do herring. This is not much of a lake for perch, on this shore at least. When you get a large perch they are always full of spawn, and you put them in a box for a short time and they are not worth dressing they are so

P
small. A good sized perch would be about 1 pound. A half pound perch is a medium size perch.

bass
w. bass
rock "
sheepshead
ling
cat
Esop
We get very few black bass. Whenever they do get the black bass, it is a good big size. I have seen an odd one that would weigh 3 pounds. There are a very few silver bass caught. Once in awhile they catch a few rock bass, and they catch a good many sheepshead when the water gets warm. The sheepshead are not saved at all. We do not get many lawyers in the pound nets. They are a fish that are way ahead of herring or anything else if rightly cooked. We catch cat-fish sometimes weighing 18 or 20 pounds. When you catch cat-fish in the pound nets you can figure that the pound nets are fishing all right, as they are a tricky fish and hard to catch. There are a very few grass pike caught without you are in some bay

where there is a spring or creek. We get
very few maskinonge. We have quite a few
German carp. They are a pretty nice fish.
I have seen one as high as 9 pounds caught
off shore. Sometimes we sell suckers. We
sold about 250 packages last summer, but
this summer they have not sold so well. We
get the most of them about the last of June
and July, but get some all the year. We get
the moon-eye. Do not get many of them in-
side, but they get them in deep water. What
we call lake minnows down below are a fish
that looks a good deal like the sucker. We
do not get the blue fin or long-jaw. What I
call the menominee is what these fellows
call lake minnows. They get a few menomi-
nees in the pound nets. We do not get but
very few bullheads, perhaps 1 or 2 in a sea-
son.

2 1/2-inch is too small mesh for the

a. gon.

maskin.
G. carp.

suckers

moon-eye

menominee or
lake minnow

blue fin
long jaw

bullheads

P.
mesh

Q. mesh herring
P. mesh
shrinkage
pound nets. In order to fish a gill net to catch herring, you would want one about 2 3/4-inch, and if you want one so that they would not gill you would have to have a small mesh. The size of the mesh for the herring pound is all right, 2 1/2. 2 1/2-inch is plenty big enough when they are in use. The tar just shrinks them--If you just tar a net and put it in the water it will not make the mesh any smaller than just the amount of the tar. If the nets are tarred and thoroughly dried before they are put in the water, they will shrink but very little. The only way they will shrink is to tar them and leave them out a good while until they are thoroughly dried. They would want to be left out about a month and then the tar draws up the knots and the corners of the meshes. If I was fishing pound nets tomorrow, I would rather have the pot 2 1/2

P. mesh

gilling
than $2\frac{3}{4}$, as that would keep the fish from gilling. $2\frac{1}{2}$ is about the right size. It does not help pound nets to keep the twine soft; it is better to have it hard.

T.
Leaders
wire
It is harder to fix up wire leaders than cotton leaders; if logs come through them they are pretty hard to mend. Wire would be a very good net in a current. We have considerable damage done to our pound nets by the current and by logs running through.

logs.
There are always some logs floating in the lake and oftentimes there are logs floating on the bottom, and when a big current comes it will carry them off. There is considerable loss from storms also, especially on a lee shore.

Seines
distrib
turning
clutgen
w/.
malleys
mesh.
descrip
methos
bottom
Seines
I never fished seines very much, only one fall. I fished right inside of Burke Island. Seines have been used all the way from the river right up to Lake View. There has been

Season
No.
Cost.

none used between Rocky Point and Kettle Point. There is a seining ground just in to the eastward of Kettle Point. There has been some seining around Bayfield. There has been no seining north of here until you get up above Southampton, up by Sable River. There is seining for herring just inside the Fishing Islands. The main part of the seining has been done between the foot of the lake and Port Harris. The seining was for pickerel, sturgeon, whitefish and herring. They used to catch herring and put them in ponds to keep them until they sold them. I have seen them use 3-inch mesh in the seines. Most of them use the same size mesh. They generally use the same size mesh for sturgeon as for other fish. Those seines, some of them would be 30 rods long. Some of them would be about 45 feet deep. This 3-inch mesh would be in the bunt of the seine and

the wings would be larger mesh, about 4-inch mesh, and some 5-inch mesh. The seines never shrink. They are tanned and there is so much pressure on them all the time that they cannot shrink. The large seines are generally made of 18 thread cotton and they will not shrink any. These seines are used on sandy bottom. A regular seine, I have seen them run out half a mile, but when you run them out a mile you have to have capstans so that you can get a horse to turn them back again. Some haul them by hand. There are some seines worked so that you can work them on stony bottom and they have been catching as many fish as the others. They have an arrangement that keeps the net off the bottom. They have a line that runs over the bottom with a stone to it. They have floats to buoy the sinkers up and the stones keep it in place. If you build a seine to fish

on stony bottom, you do not have to clear the ground. The seines were used down below here all the time from May until August. They fished seines in the river in the fall for herring and up as far as the current runs, perhaps 1 1/2 miles above the rapids. They did not fish them up above that in the fall. The wind was strong and the fish did not come on the beach. Between Pt. Harris and the river there were about 5 different people had seines there. Their seining grounds run quite a ways. Wees's grounds run from about 3 miles up clear down to the Grand Trunk depot. The seines caught mostly herring, but the most valuable fish we caught were pickerel. They also caught sturgeon and some whitefish. When I first came here they used to get whitefish in abundance, but they always caught more herring than anything else. The seines did not catch near

the amount of sturgeon that they are catching with the pound nets now. Probably got about half as many sturgeon in the seines as they do in the pound nets. A pound net is more expensive than a seine. You can buy those seines for \$75, and you would use about 2 seines in a season. A pound net costs about \$275. There is more twine in a pound net, take the pounds and leaders and every thing; there is twice the twine in a pound net that there is in a seine. I do not think they ever got a great many small whitefish in the seines. If they ever got whitefish there they would be big ones because the whitefish there are all large size. You have got to come up this way around off Stony Point before you get small whitefish. They used to use seines there until this summer, at Stony Point. With the pickerel they would catch a good many small ones. You

P.
cont

Small
w/

pull a seine in around a school of fish, and after you pull those fish ashore with the seine they are no good to throw away. You cannot save fish out of a seine. They get sand in their gills and get it all over them. Seines take anything that comes along. I have seen little pickerel come in 3 inches long. The seines are worse than the pound nets in that respect. The seines fished down the river in the summer time caught a large amount of those small pickerel. I have seen them where they had a couple of tons of those No.2 pickerel. They make only 2 classes, Nos.1 and 2. The No.2 sometimes would be as small as 6 or 8 inches long. The seine is more destructive than the pound net, and the pound nets are more destructive than gill nets. These white-fish that are caught in the pound nets on this lake you never get them in the gill

throwing
out

catches
everything
destructive

nets. They are a different kind of fish from the gill net whitefish. There is about 2 or 3 pounds' difference in the weight of them. Those on the shore are larger.

*Fykes
running*

There are no fyke nets used about here. I think the fyke nets would be a good thing to catch herring with. You could fix them with a lead the same as you do the pound nets.

*g.
history
descrip*

Capt. Kingster--Gill net fishing is an old method of fishing, but they are working a little different from what they used to.

quantity

They used to have a float and stone and now they have leads and corks on them. They used to make their gill nets here about 17 years ago, but now they can buy them cheaper than they can knit them. The twine they use now is finer than they used to use. In this part of Lake Huron gill nets are used quite extensively, up around the islands above

Southampton. That is around the Fishing Islands. But it has not been a success for a number of years. There are just as many herring and pickerel, but they cannot sell them when they do get them. There are other fish taking the place of them in all the better markets. There is not 1/5 of the men go up there now that used to. That fishing was in the fall. We used to use about 90 or 100 pounds of twine to a boat. 3 1/2 pounds of twine would make about 70 yards. They are 60 meshes deep. The mesh is 2 3/4 and 2 5/8. We use quite a few herring nets here in the winter with ice fishing, but it has been a failure for the last few years because we have had no ice. But they do not use them here in the summer, as herring are worth nothing in the summer. There are any amount of herring in the lake, but they only come in around the islands in the spawning season.

g.
loc.

herring
mullage

No. men

season

ant.

descrip
herring g.

winter
fishing

season

herring
abund.
movements

Level of water

First
abund.

herring &
catch

herring
perch

no small w/f

market

The water probably is about 3 feet lower than it used to be. We have more trout than we used to have. They do not take anything in the herring nets but herring, except an odd perch. I never saw a small whitefish in them. I have seen a gang of nets set for herring in Lake Erie and come ashore with 4 tons of perch gilled in them. People now will buy fresh fish in preference to salt fish, and they can get them now. Years ago they could not get the fresh fish at all times.

Fig. 1

4.

w/f

etc.

Season

We fish whitefish nets about in the center of the lake. We commence right off here in the spring about 1 1/2 hours' run, about 15 miles, and keep working along the reef near the center of the lake. The American tugs set right along-side of us. We go up as far north as Southampton sometimes in July and August. We never go south of Bay-

9. field. When I first started about 18 years ago we used to fish down off Bayfield altogether. Bayfield is 48 miles above Port Huron. The best fishing is up off Southampton. We get as much in one gang down there as we would in 2 down below here. We fish anywhere at all along this reef. We set on the edges of the reef mostly. The best bottom is the broken bottom with sand and loose stones in it, and on the slopes. We get about 30 fathoms of water on the reef, and up north will get 75 and 80 fathoms. I have set in 120 fathoms off Manitoulin Islands and got trout and moon-eyes. Would sell the moon-eyes for whitefish. The trout we get in the deep water are a different fish from what we get along the reefs; they are smaller and softer, and more like the siskiwit. On the reefs you get all these long black trout.

*depth**trout
moon-eyes?**trout
var.
etc.*

g.
tugs
boats

There are 3 tugs fishing from here now. Both the sail boats are laid up now. There are 5 tugs at Southampton, 1 at Kincardine, 2 at Tober Morey, 2 at Club Island and at South Bay there is 1 tug. There used to be 25 sail boats fishing out of here and no tugs at all, but the tugs are replacing the sail boats and making it worse for the fishing. With the sail boats you could never go out more than 15 or 20 miles and out in the middle of the lake there was always a place where they did not fish, but now the tugs can go anywhere in the lake. A tug will pay now in preference to a sail boat. If there had never been any tugs fishing it would have been a good deal better, as there would always have been this spare ground out here in the middle of the lake.

front
food
destroyed
n.p.

I think the trout have eaten the whitefish up. I have seen whitefish weighing

1 1/2 or 2 pounds in trout. Trout will eat anything. I do not think they will eat dead matter, but they will eat offal which is fresh.

Q. The trout nets are 4 1/2 and 4 5/8 mesh. That is the net that is commonly used. In the fall we used to use 5 and 5 1/2-inch. That was these coarse nets that we set close on the rocks. A tug will use 5 gangs, 4 in the water and one ashore. Those gangs are about 5 miles long. We lift 36 nets each day. All the tugs have about the same, and that is all they can handle. The sail boats use about half what the tugs do.

ant.
seasons. I begin fishing as soon as I can for the ice. We set the 17th of March this year. Generally begin about the first probably. Last year we hauled out the 10th of October. We keep at it all through the summer. We will haul out this year about the first of

g.
life
cons. fish
October. We haul out on account of the storms. We get up half a rig of nets each year, and if we fished through October we would use up our whole gang. We would get a good many soft fish also, as we cannot lift them regularly.

Care
We tan our nets every 4 weeks. We use lime also. Very often, if there is a good deal of slime in them, we put lime on them and it cuts the slime off.

Ant
Lug
Cec.
change of
ground
seasons
There are more nets in the lake now than there ever were. The tugs do better fishing farther away than they do closer in. If you get a place where there has been no nets set you are bound to catch more fish for a few lifts. This time of year you have to move about every second set, but they will soon come back again. There has been quite a little difference here this last 4 years. It always gets poor in June, and it keeps poor

4. all the season inside here, and in the spring it will be just as fine as ever again. It is a feeding ground and they come on for the minnows.

How set

We set our nets straight generally. We have got to go with the current or else the nets will all be in a lump. I have set zigzag on the banks, but it will not do where there is a strong current running. I have not caught 200 pounds of whitefish all the season out of 130,000 pounds of trout. We get millions of the little bloat, and get lawyers, but throw them away. Get a few moon-eyes. I think there are 3 or 4 different breeds of trout. In shallow water you get a bigger trout. In deep water you get small ones weighing 2 1/2 or 3 pounds, and they are fatter. The spring is the best time for fishing with us.

w/ trout
bloat
ling bloat moon-eyes
trout
or

0 4
Season

The trout spawn all the way from August

Trout spawning

to November. There is a certain kind we
call red or yellow fin, and they begin to
spawn the latter part of August. They spawn
on these outside reefs. They are a deep wa-
ter fish. Then a smaller deep water fish
comes next in October. I saw some of the
yellow fin ones with ripe spawn the other
day. We do not fish in less than 30 fathoms.
I have fished in shallow water in September
lots of times. The blue trout do not spawn
in September inshore. The majority of the
trout spawn in November. From the 10th to
the 30th of November is the principal time.
They are just coming on good to spawn when
the close season comes in. Around Wiarton
they have men go around looking for spawn.
The big black trout are a fish we never
catch in the summer but very few. Whitefish
we used to catch years ago between the 5th
and 10th of November with spawn in them.

trout
var

depth

trout
season

spawning

They go to the Georgian Bay sometimes to get spawn.

*g.
cond. fin*

Fish will not remain in good condition in the gill nets over 5 days now, but in the spring they will live a long time. The current kills them. If they are caught so they can move their gills freely they will live 8 or 10 days. We have found them dead lots of times one night out. They do not gill under 2 pounds, but they will get caught by the teeth sometimes and will catch them that way in a 5-inch mesh. Anything less than 2 pounds is pretty small for market. I throw all the small ones overboard, but there is no use throwing dead ones overboard. You will not get over 20 or 30 in a day of these little fellows. I think the fairest way is to have a certain size mesh.

Size

min. size

throwing over

Regulate mesh

When I fished for herring here years ago they never got anything but herring. We nev-

*herring
my
assoc.*

*herring g.
coastal set*

er set a gill net inside of 10 or 12 miles of the shore here. Whitefish and trout do not come in and herring would not get out that far, if you were fishing for them.

*g.
coastal fish*

There are quite a few gilled that are not fit to throw overboard; a great many of them will be tangled up and will die. The bloaters will all bloat, but the trout will not.

*P.
Smallmouth
with herring*

You are bound to get the whitefish in the pound net if you are fishing for herring.

*g.
shrimps out
proper mesh*

It would be pretty hard to throw many fish away alive from the gill nets. The mesh in the gill nets, I think, is all right. I would not advocate anything smaller. Larger than that you could not make it pay, and anything smaller would catch fish too small for the market, and would catch big fish as well. It would catch 20 lb. fish.

*Front
coastal
shrimps*

There is one thing about fish, no matter how small they are, there is always spawn in

Figur

them. I have seen trout smaller than 2 pounds with spawn in them. I never saw whitefish so small that there was not spawn in them in the spawning season.

*Black trout
habits*

The black trout have certain movements. At the full of the moon they will gather on hard bottom and the deep water fish are always below after a storm. We do the best fishing in the full of the moon. Herring will gill in the day-time and night both, and trout will gill in the day-time also.

*q,
Time day fish
give*

You set trout nets in deep water in the summer and you will see the trout jumping all around and you will catch a good many trout before the nets are clear down. I think if we could keep the nets nearer the surface we would catch a good many more fish. The

*level at
which set*

*Wg.
movements*

whitefish used to travel north as a rule here in the spring, April and May. The only way you can follow trout is this way, if a

*q,
how, how
they are
followed*

boat is lifting to the south and one to the north, and you get a lot of fish in the nets to the south and they are mostly dead and the nets to the north get live fish, you can tell that way. I think the trout raise up and play around and then settle down again. In the Georgian Bay the whitefish are caught anywhere in the bay sometimes, and all at once there will be good fishing all over and they must raise right up.

W. J.
habits

We do not get any sturgeon in our gill nets, except occasionally a rock sturgeon. We always get them on hard bottom, but they are the same fish as the larger sturgeon.

sturgeon

I do not lose many nets. I have lost only 24 nets in 7 years. We often get them parted and destroyed by logs, but we will get the remnants back again.

loses.

logs.

There is no doubt the pound nets get the fish in the best condition. The fish from

sturgeon

P.
Q.
cond. fish

the shallow water are not as hard as the fish from deep water and I do not like them so well to eat. Pound net herring are better than gill net herring because you have to pick them through the mesh and it softens them by the handling. When I fish I lift my herring gill nets every day, and then some of them would be dead. You lift out here in 60 fathoms, and with 5 nights out there are very few bad fish among them.

q.
time out

Spearing
Explosives
offal

There is no spearing about here. No explosives are used. Our offal is supposed to be buried, and we bury most of it, but sometimes dump a little. We have no whitefish to destroy now, and I think the offal helps trout if anything, and what floats the gulls will eat. We get it in the nets sometimes and it is pretty hard to get it out.

(I think the offal should be buried, even in deep water, because if you throw it in

deep water there may be a current running and it will come in pretty close to shore before it gets to the bottom--McClellan).

I think it might hurt whitefish, but what I go by is Kincardine, which is the best fishing station on the chain of lakes and they dump it there always. I do not think it is bad for the fishing because I have seen it at Club Island Harbor, the minnows in the bay, and the tugs coming in would stir up the offal and these little things would eat it just as fast as they brought it up. There is no smell in the water at all to it until it comes up to the air. My opinion is it does not hurt the trout fishing.

We have no refuse from saw-mills or tanneries. Have no trouble from dredging. The saw logs are the worst nuisance I come across; the bark and slime where they pass over the nets. We get the most trouble off

Sawmills
tanneries
dredging
logs
bark
slime

here on the north-west reef. Those logs come from Georgian Bay on their way to Saginaw. The bark will lay for years and there is no decay to it, and when there is a storm your nets will be full of it. That is mostly north-west of Point Clark. The bark is rubbed off the logs and in a few days it will sink. The stringy stuff on the inside of the bark is worst. The only way to get it out of the nets is to pick it out piece by piece. The only way to stop it is to have saw-mills there and cut the timber before they ship it. It would be better all the way round if they got the lumber cut here and shipped it across in boats.

fertilizing
Fish are not caught for fertilizing purposes.

Close season
I am not in favor of a close season nor against it. I do not see as it does much good. The weather is so regulated that it

protects them any way here. I think probably a close season generally would be a good thing if it was the same on both sides of the lake, but it is not fair that we should protect the fish for the Americans. It should be the same on both sides. ^{J. gen} Everybody knows the fish travel all over; like a bird, they are here to-day and there to-morrow.

*Fish
monuments*
*Canadian
ground best*
We have better fishing grounds than they ^{A. gen} have on the other side. In places where you get shallow water and deep along-side of it is the good fishing grounds. The Duck Islands is as good a fishing ground as there is in Lake Huron to-day, but it is not as good as it used to be. They have pound nets and gill nets there. ^{R. gen} My opinion is if people were left alone they would drop out in a few years. I would not be in favor of a close

*If left alone
would right
itself*
close season season in November because there are a certain amount of men who have a small boat

each and they figure on that month for catching a few fish. They have a small rig and are not able to follow the fish outside and trust to getting them when they come inshore.

Regulate mesh
turning mesh
OK
smaller
perch size
I am in favor of having the mesh regulated as it is now, especially on the outside fishing. The inside fishing does not amount to so much. The mesh is all right for herring here. If you were fishing with a 2 1/2-inch mesh you would do no harm around the beach. You would catch no small whitefish. The perch will not average over 1/4 pound.

(Mr. McClean thinks the average will be about 1/2 pound).

abundant
Suckers
There are as many perch here as ever. I believe the day will come when suckers will be fished for.

whitefish
throwing out
(It would be possible to return small pickerel caught in the pound nets to the water without injuring them. I think it would

be done if there was a regulation requiring it. We used to catch quite a good many ^{m.b.} small whitefish among the herring up at Lake View and we would dip them out and a good many would die--McClellan).

2 pounds would be small enough for trout ^{J. gon} to market, and whitefish 1 3/4 pounds would be small enough, round. My hauls of fish will average 3 or 4 pounds. In the gill nets the size of the mesh regulates the size all right. Pickerel, anything smaller than 1 pound there would be no use in taking. I have seen them putting in No. 2 pickerel that would not weigh 1/4 pound.

The trout spawn out in the center of the lake and they can take care of themselves. You take it 18 or 20 years ago and you would not get a trout at all inside of 15 fathoms; would get all whitefish; and now on the same ground you will get all trout. / I would much ^{Reg}

*herring
w.f.
assoc.*

*throwing out
w.f.*

*min. size
trout
w.f.
valley*

*g. mesh
regulate size*

*Trout
abundance
disturb, sustains,*

*close season
bull
spring,*

prefer to have the close season in November than in the spring. We do not catch pickerel before the 15th of May, as we have a close season on them.

*P. set Spring
& Nov. and throw
out walleye
w/.*

(We are allowed to set our pound nets in the spring, but have to throw the pickerel out. They are allowed to fish for herring in the fall and throw the whitefish out.

*Very few w/.
kick trout*

Where the whitefish and trout are together there would be very few whitefish thrown out unless they had very light fishing. It goes against the grain to throw away a nice whitefish or trout. Another thing that goes

*Throwing out
w/.*

*Close season
hard on
some men*

against the grain is that the man who wants work is knocked out in November and it makes a pretty short season for him. In places where you have a shore run is a good place to fish in the fall, and if you get good weather in November you will catch as many fish as you will in any other 2 months-- (McClellan).

*Nov. is
just season
some places*

occupation

Fishermen do nothing but fish around here,
as it takes all his time fishing and fixing
up his rigs. We lay up our tugs as soon as
we are through in the fall. There is no
chance for winter fishing here, but last win-
ter, if a man had a good tug, he could have
fished all winter. I think if a man had a
gill net herring rig here and set it in 70
or 80 fathoms in November, he would get a
good many herring.

*winter
fishing**q.
herring
now*

